

1. (Twice Amended) A display device comprising a first substrate having a conductor pattern for connecting pixels in an electrically conducting manner, and electrically conducting connections between the pattern and conducting tracks on a support, at least one said conducting connection comprising a resilient connection which provides a variable-pressure metal-metal contact, in which each metal of the metal-metal contact is chosen from the group of gold, silver and nickel.

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 26, 2000. Claims 1-3 and 5-10 remain pending in this application. Claim 1 has been amended to more narrowly recite the invention. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6, 8, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lazzery (U.S. Patent No. 4,012,117; hereinafter "Lazzery"). Additionally, Claims 5 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lazzery as applied to Claim 1 above, and further in view of Hiramoto et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,847,783; hereinafter "Hiramoto"). Applicants submit that the pending amended claims are patentable over the cited art for at least the following reasons.

Amended Claim 1 is directed to "[a] display device comprising a first substrate having a conductor pattern for connecting pixels in an electrically conducting manner, and electrically conducting connections between the pattern and conducting tracks on a support, at least one said conducting connection comprising a resilient connection which provides a variable-pressure metal-metal contact, in which each metal of the metal-metal contact is chosen from the group of gold, silver and nickel."

It is the Applicants' understanding that Lazzery does not recite or suggest a display device where at least one conducting connection is a resilient connection that provides a variable-pressure metal-metal contact, where the metal-metal contact is gold, silver, or nickel. Consequently, Lazzery lacks the advantage of added contact reliability from variable-pressure metal-metal contact provides in a manufactured standard component. Further, Lazzery relies upon clamping to maintain a tight and rigid fitting assemblage of parts and contacts. However, as recited in Lazzery, "[s]ome slight deformation of the connectors 24 thus occurs, the connectors bowing out slightly toward and against the cell lower substrate" (Col. 4, lines 39-42). Lazzery compensates for this deformation by including projections to serve as stops which limit the pressure applied against the resilient connectors (e.g., Col. 4, lines

42-46). Applicants' claimed invention eliminates the need for such stops, and improves contacts by eliminating the potential for deformations, and takes advantage of the pressure clamping provides.

Claim 1 is believed patentable over Lazzery for at least these reasons.

Claims 2-3 and 5-10 depend from Claim 1 and are believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Applicants believe that the amendment to Claim 1 additionally renders the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of Claims 5 and 9 moot. In addition, Claims 2-3 and 5-10 are also deemed to define additional aspects of the invention, and should be individually considered on their own merits.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the currently pending claims, as herein amended, clearly define statutory subject matter. Accordingly, allowance of the currently pending claims is now respectfully submitted to be justified, and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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